

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 10/604,512 Confirmation No. 1511
Applicant : Masuhiro Natsuhara, et al.
Filed : July 28, 2003
T.C./A.U. : 1763
Examiner : Ram N. Kackar
Docket No. : 39.018-AG
Customer No. : 29453

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This constitutes an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. The attached documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08 are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention in the patent application identified above.

REMARKS

The presently submitted reference, i.e., Cite No. F1 as listed on Form PTO/SB/08, is not in English. This reference was cited in a communication from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart Japanese application.

Of the two references cited in the JPO communication, Japanese Unexamined Pat. App. Pub. No. H08-078193 has already been submitted in an IDS dated October 11, 2005 in the instant case, and because it is thus cumulative to material already made of record, the reference is not being submitted here.

Concise Explanation of Relevance/Copy of Translation **Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)**

As a concise explanation of the relevance of the presently submitted Japanese-language reference, an English translation of the Japanese Patent Office communication in its entirety is submitted herewith. The JPO communication was in Japanese Pat. App. No. 2003-028959, the foreign patent application on the basis of

which priority is claimed in the present application. (A copy of the Japanese Patent Office communication in its entirety follows the English translation.)

Furthermore, an English abstract of Cite No. F1 is available on the Japanese Patent Office website through Patent Abstracts of Japan (PAJ), and a copy of the corresponding abstract is attached to the back of the reference.

STATEMENT AS SPECIFIED IN 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement.

FEE AS STIPULATED IN 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)

A final rejection was issued in the present application on June 1, 2006. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d), in addition to the § 1.97(e) statement above, the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) is being submitted in an authorization, accompanying the EFS Web submission of this paper, to charge to a credit card the \$180 fee.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider this reference, and to indicate so on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08 and make the document of record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

June 22, 2006

/James Judge/

James W. Judge
Registration No. 42,701

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Complete if Known

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Application Number	10/604,512
Filing Date	July 28, 2003
First Named Inventor	Masuhiko Natsuhara
Art Unit	1763
Examiner Name	Ram N. Kackar
Attorney Docket Number	39,018-AG

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	F1	JP-2002-368069-A	12-20-2002	Ngk Insulators		✓

**Examiner
Signature**

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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